

Let's Get Acquainted

By Ruby Compton

Wayne McDonald was born on August 22, 1929, the third child and second son of Clifford and Delores Casper McDonald. His brother and sisters are Olenea now deceased; Russell, who is a pilot for United Airlines; and Zona who married Garry Dayton and is a popular barber, they live in Orem.

Clifford, Wayne's father, built a crib for his first child and it was sturdy enough to serve each of his 4 children as they came along. Clifford made cabinets and desks for many people as well as building houses.

Wayne was named after Wayne Whiting of Charleston and later of Heber. Wayne Whiting and his sister used to perform in leading rolls of the many plays they put on for wars in this state as well as other states. They were very popular with large audiences wherever they performed. Clifford also performed on the program, his act was as a trapeze man during intermission. He had traveled with a group in the Eastern States and he was a very good performer.

While in the East, Clifford learned his trade as a cabinet maker. He was a native son of Heber City whose grandparents were among the very early settlers of Heber Valley.

Wayne's mother, Delores, was born in Charleston. She was the only daughter of Thomas Phylip



Mr. and Mrs. Wayne McDonald

and his partner, Mike Seiter.

When Clifford died, Wayne was alone in the room with him. He was 19 years old, Olenea, the first child of Clifford and Delores was married and lived several states away. Russell was in the Air Force and Zona was still at home with her mother.

bid to build and furnish the millwork was accepted. Since making this bid, Wayne has done approximately 200 churches throughout the U.S. and Canada.

On February 26, 1965, Wayne started building their present home on Mill Road. They moved into their lovely white brick home

By the time Wayne was old enough to be of any help, he was carrying lath to his father. Both Russell and Wayne were aware that they must be their father's "hands", leaving him free to do the things they could not do. Clifford was always a stickler for perfection and the boys learned to do the work right the first time. They also learned self-discipline early in life and that each job started must be completed. The family worked as a unit to support and advance itself.

After the new home was completed, there were many relatives and friends who dropped in for a game of Rook and a dish of ice cream. Clifford and Delores' home was warm and welcoming to all.

Wayne graduated from high school in the spring of 1947. He had been able to save quite a bit toward going into the cabinet shop with his father as a partner, but Clifford's health steadily weakened and finally he told Wayne to go ahead on his own. So, Wayne bought the business and started a new shop in April of 1949. Clifford died at the age of 45 in July, and the shop, named McDonald Cabinets Co., was completed in November of 1949. The business was owned and managed by Wayne for the next 30 years, then it was sold to Wayne's son Alan

and Mary Elizabeth. They had two boys, one older and one younger than Delores. Tom Casper and his family moved to upper Daniel Ward where he had bought a nice farm. Delores learned to manage a home, milk cows and to give the menfolk a hand in the fields when they were close-run for time, just as most farm girls did in those days. While still a young girl, Delores had to learn to take care of her mother who became bed-ridden with arthritis. She cared for her mother until she died many years later.

Clifford and Delores bought the farm just west of her parents so she could be near them and be of help to them each day. In those early years of their marriage, Clifford worked in the mines in Park City and he became stiff in his joints before he gave up the job. This ailment never really went away.

The children in the upper end of Daniel Ward had to walk two miles, one way to church and school. Often there were fist-fights among the boys as they cut through the fields. Wayne said it was always good to come home to the smell of good home baked bread and good food cooking, with his mother in the house before the evening chores.

Wayne does not remember his father when he was well, for Clifford had been stricken with arthritis about the time that Wayne was three or four years old. However, Clifford forced himself to do what work he could do. It was his habit to rise early and sit on the bench by the chicken coop to catch the first warmth of the sunrise, and to hear the birds sing as he put his mind to what must be done for the day. Until the new house was completed, this project really drove Clifford as he was almost desparate with the desire to complete a lovely home for his beloved Delores, and their four children, before he became too ill to complete the job.

Wayne had been courting Mary Jane Read, whom he had met in high school. She was the daughter of Doctor Harold Roy and Nora McMillan Read. Dr. Read had come to Heber and became a very prominent dentist many years ago, and Nora's folks were from some of Heber Valley's earliest settlers.

Wayne was established in his own business and he decided the time had come for marriage. Wayne McDonald and Mary Jane Read were married in the LDS Salt Lake Temple on November 30, 1949. They decided to postpone the honeymoon and on the morning after the wedding, Wayne went to work at the shop. There were two men working with Wayne in the shop and after they were paid, the take-home money was small, but the business grew and Wayne was able to move his family into a new home in 1954, prior to this, they had rented the cheaper apartments and saved their money.

Wayne had equipped a new store in Ephraim with shelves, counters and other needs when Jack Turner and Sons decided to build two new stores, one in Roosevelt and one in Vernal. They already had a new store in Heber. Wayne contracted to build the furnishings.

Sometime later, Wayne met Bud Mashas and Allan Holbrook, two young men in the school contracting business. Through them he was accepted into the business of building and furnishing equipment to supply the schools from Moab to Brigham City and from Uinta Basin to Salt Lake City.

When the LDS Church started putting their buildings out on competitive bidding in 1965, the business became open to more builders. The Heber Stake building was contracted to the Turner Construction Co., and Wayne's

They have planted a tree-farm, watered from their fresh spring water, bought with the property. They have ducks which help keep their pond clean. Their's is a lovely home, comfortable and easy to enjoy because one feels welcome there.

The Old Mill Tree Farm, as Wayne named the place, keeps Wayne busy with time to spend in church and civic work. Wayne maintains his pilot's license. He started flying when he was 16 years old. In 1957, he became president of the Jaycees of Heber; he is a Charter member of the Heber Rotary Club, and became it's president from 1968-69. He served on the new hospital board for three years and he represented the board when he gave the acceptance speech at the dedication of the new hospital. He was the county vice-chairman of the Republican Party for 3 years.

Wayne is presently involved as the chairman of the County Fair, he says he is looking forward to working with all the talented people who are anxious to see tradition carried on.

Mary Jane has served as 1st counselor in Primary; president of young women's M.I.A.; chairman of services activities in the ward and is presently president of the Questorian Club.

Their 5 children are: Susan who married Ron Rasband and they live in Murray. Jayne married Rick Coleman and they live in Valley Hills, Heber. Ruth married Steve Cummings of Heber. Alan their only son, married Carolyn Tenney and they live in Heber and Mary Ann married Tim Van Wagoner and they live in Heber.

Wayne and Mary Jane have 11 grandchildren. They are happy in their home and feel fortunate to have been born and raised in the valley.